

THE BULLETIN



A Publication of the Overseas Press Club of America • Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street, N.Y. 10017 • (212) 687-2430

FOREIGN NEWSMEN MAY JOIN OPC WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS

By MATT BASSITY

The active members of the Overseas Press Club have voted overwhelmingly to open active membership to journalists working for foreign news media. A total of 93.4 per cent voted to change the stipulation that active members must work for "American-owned media", to specify only that they work for "established news media". The constitutional change means that those working for foreign

news media no longer must join as associate members, but will now be admitted as active members with full voting rights.

The change follows an earlier amendment which opened active membership to those news people whose experience has been entirely within the United States. A decision by the Board of Governors, taken last year, reduced dues for those now employed in journalism ("working press") from \$175 to \$75. However, the dues reduction does not include executives or those in managerial capacities.

Active members must have had three consecutive years of experience — five if not consecutive — as news people in wire services, newspapers, news magazines, radio and television news or as news cameramen.

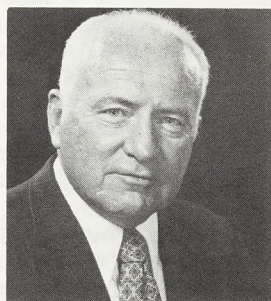
A second constitutional amendment reduced the previous news experience required for associate members from ten to five years. It was passed by 94.6 per cent of those voting. A third amendment to eliminate from active membership those who work for media that present a single point of view, such as promotional publications of any organization or movement, or house organs, was passed by a vote of 92.3 per cent.

FBI OFFICIAL TO TALK ON NEW PRESS POLICY

By LEE LEVITT

An official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will discuss the bureau's new press-relations policies at an OPC "Talking Shop With..." scheduled for February 5, 5:30 to 7 p.m., in the Club dining room.

The speaker will be John J. McDermott, who became assistant director of the FBI's external affairs division last May.



John J. McDermott

"Following the death of J. Edgar Hoover, the FBI decided to try to liberalize its policies regarding release of information and to become more cooperative with the press generally," said Larry Stessin, OPC Shoptalk Chairman. "Mr. McDermott's appearance will give us an opportunity to question an official spokesman regarding these policies and the way they are working out in practice."

The meeting is free for members and non-members alike. There will be a cash bar.

Before moving into external affairs, McDermott headed the bureau's Washington field office. A member of the New York Bar, he attended Iona College and the Fordham University School of Law.

LINOWITZ HEADLINER AT JOINT LUNCHEON

The Foreign Press Association will join the Overseas Press Club in co-sponsoring a Headliners Luncheon on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at which Chairman Sol M. Linowitz of the Commission on U.S.-Latin American Relations will discuss the Commission's recent report and recommendations to the Ford Administration.

The affair will be held at the OPC headquarters, with cocktails at 12 noon and lunch at 12:30 p.m.

The prominent Finish journalist, Jussi Himanka, president of the Foreign Press Association, will share the head table with OPC president Jack Raymond and Mr. Linowitz.

(Continued on page 3)

CALENDAR

Monday, February 3 to Friday, February 14 — Art exhibit commissioned by the U.S. Air Force in cooperation with the Society of Illustrators. Includes Vietnam combat and worldwide Air Force activities. *Herb Silverman*, chairman, Art Committee.

Tuesday, February 4, 8:15 p.m. — Reading of a new opera "Mary Dyer" by Richard Owen, with singers Lynn Owen, formerly of Met Opera; Carol Wilcox, San Francisco Opera; Robert Paul, NYC Opera. Cash bar.

Wednesday, February 5, 5:30 p.m. — Talking Shop with... John J. McDermott, Assistant Director of the FBI. Topic "FBI and the Press." Cash bar (Page 1).

Friday, February 7, 12 Noon — Deadline: OPC Bulletin of February 15.

Tuesday, February 11, 12 Noon — "Headliner Luncheon" to feature the former ambassador to the Organization of American States and recent chairman of the Commission on U.S. — Latin American Relations, Sol M. Linowitz. Luncheon \$7.50 including tax and gratuities. (Page 1)

Friday February 14, 6 p.m. — GUYS & DOLLS, a St. Valentine's Day House Party. Cash Bar. Entertainment.

Friday, February 14 — Deadline: Reduced rate tickets for OPC Annual Awards Dinner to be held on Tuesday, April 15. Tickets will be \$32.50 each for members and one guest and \$40.00 for additional guests. Beginning on Monday, February 17, the tickets will be \$40.00 each for members and one guest and \$50.00 for additional guests.

Thursday, February 20, 5:30 p.m. — Twilight Jazz session with tenor sax "Happy" Caldwell; Freddy Gibbs, piano; Irving Taylor, sax and clarinet; Bernard Flood, trumpet; Gene Moore, drums. Free to OPC members. Guests \$1.00. Cash bar.

Tuesday, April 15 — Annual Awards Dinner, Hotel Biltmore. 6:30 p.m. — cocktails in the Fountain Court; 7:30 p.m. — dinner in the Grand Ballroom. (Page 2).

LOWELL THOMAS WILL GET AWARD

By ROY J. BATTERSBY

Lowell Thomas, distinguished news commentator, author and former president of the OPC will receive the President's Award at the Overseas Press Club's annual awards dinner, April 15, in the Hotel Biltmore, *Jack Raymond*, OPC president announced.

The award, given at the discretion of the president, is for Mr. Thomas' long and distinguished career. It is not given each year. It was last awarded two years ago in the form of a cash donation to the Committee to Search for Missing Newsmen in South East Asia. That committee was headed by Walter Cronkite, CBS-TV commentator.

Mr. Thomas, in answer to an invitation to receive the award in person and to address the audience on that occasion pointed out it would be presented "just a few days after my 83rd birthday."

In his letter, Mr. Thomas recalled his long association with the OPC especially "when I took part in everything. I look back on those days with much pleasure."

In announcing his choice Mr. Raymond said:

"I can't think of anyone who better

personifies long term excellence in our profession."

Ben Grauer, noted radio and TV commentator and reporter, has again accepted his usual role in announcing the award winners.

William R. Clabby, chairman of the dinner committee and Holmes Brown, co-chairman, want to remind you that the February 14 deadline for the advance ticket sale is fast approaching and, if you want to save \$7.50 on each of the first two tickets and \$10.00 on additional tickets, to make your reservations now. Remember your ticket includes unlimited drinks before dinner.

The tickets will be \$32.50 each for members and one guest and \$40.00 for additional guests until Friday Feb. 14. After that, the tickets will be \$40.00 each for members and one guest and \$50.00 for additional guests. Until April 1, anyone wishing a special table (the first five tiers) may obtain a full table at \$60.00 a ticket.

The menu consists of pate, salad, London broil, Pommes Beignet, Zucchini, brandied peaches and coffee.

DATeline THEME: NEWS SLEUTHING

There are those in and out of the communications world who believe news media do too little in the area of investigative reporting. This in spite of Watergate.

Exploring this subject in depth will be the theme of *Dateline 1975* it was announced by Arthur G. Milton, Long Island Press, who will again act as publisher.

Taking over the editorial responsibility for this issue will be *Pent-House Magazine*, one of the most widely read publications in the country. Bob Guccione, who will act as editor, has gathered a top flight staff of talented people to make this upcoming issue an outstanding one. Executive Editor will be James Goode and Managing Editor F. Joseph Speiler.

The layout and art will be in the capable hands of Ahmad Sadiq while the Senior Editor's job will be handled by Peter Bloch. Walter Campbell will be the copy Editor with Alma Moore, Promotion Director and Sherwood Ross, Public Relations Director.

Rounding out the staff will be Will Yolen as Circulation Director and Pat Milton, Associate Circulation Director. Len Silverman will handle the duties of Advertising Director.

Dateline now in its 19th year will be distributed at the Annual Awards

Dinner on April 15th. Advertisers will have their message before a most prestigious audience which not only includes OPC members but also the President, cabinet, Congress, governors, heads of foreign governments, ambassadors, to and from the United States, editors and publishers of leading newspapers and magazines, news executives of leading television and radio stations.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Active Resident

Victor G. Webb, Managing Director, Dow Jones International.
SPONSORS: Stanley Ross, Ralph Salazar.

Associate Resident

Gwendolyn Mapp, TV Hostess, Teleprompter, Calbe TV.
SPONSORS: Wilma Dobie, Ruth C. Bie-miller.
Charles Michelson, U.S. Representative, Television Corp., Ltd.
SPONSORS: George McGann, Sol Zatt.

Associate Non-Resident

James T. Kennedy, Columnist, Reporter, Eastern Shore News, Accomac, Virginia.
SPONSORS: Wilma Dobie, Will Yolen.
Robert Cohn, Editor-in-Chief, St. Louis Jewish Light.
SPONSORS: Stanley Ross, Ralph Salazar.

REGIONAL REPORT

FROM HONG KONG

By AL KAFF

Members of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Hong Kong fired questions at Ambassador Robert McCloskey in the State Department in Washington Dec. 11 (Asia time) in one of the first live news conferences ever staged between continents.

About 60 foreign correspondents and their guests gathered for a three-course dinner in the Club overlooking Hong Kong harbor. After coffee, a satellite telephone circuit was opened between the Club and the U.S. State Department where McCloskey, who has just finished breakfast, was waiting to be interviewed from Hong Kong.

Club President Al Kaff presided. Technical details of the trans-Pacific circuit were worked out by Keith Kay and Dave Thomas, Hong Kong-based correspondents for CBS, and officers and engineers of the United States Information Agency and Radio Hong Kong.

McCloskey, special assistant to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, answered a series of questions during the 30-minute telephone news conference on China, Vietnam, the United Nations and Dr. Kissinger's personal style of diplomacy.

In his replies from Washington, heard crystal clear in Hong Kong except for one brief circuit break, McCloskey said he believed most Americans support U.S. foreign policy despite public criticism of the United Nations.

Before the telephone news conference, the Club saw a videotape interview of McCloskey carried out in Washington by VOA's Ray Kabaker on behalf of the Hong Kong group.

The program was arranged to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Foreign Correspondents Club's evacuation from China and relocation in Hong Kong.

THANK YOU NOTES

The staff at the Club takes this opportunity to thank those members who so graciously contributed to the employees Christmas Fund in December. Your kindness and thoughtfulness helped to make it a truly Merry Christmas.

James Menditto Mary Novick
Fay Alder Anthony Muraco

Another thank you from the Biltmore employees that service our Members.

Luis Diaz and Staff

OBITUARIES

Lawrence G. Blochman, a foreign correspondent and well-known author of mystery and detective stories, died apparently of a stroke at St. Luke's Hospital on January 22. He was 74 years old and lived at 370 Riverside Drive, NYC.

Mr. Blochman had been an OPC member since 1940, a former vice president, currently a member of the Board, and in recent years he served on the annual Awards Dinner Committee, Operations Committee and others. OPC President **Jack Raymond** said, "Larry's dedication and dramatic effectiveness in many positions of responsibility in the OPC won him personal respect and admiration no less meaningful than the worldwide acclaim he enjoyed as professional journalist and author."

Mr. Blochman wrote "Bombay Mail," "Midnight Sailing," "See You at the Morgue," "Wives to Burn," "Diagnosis: Homicide," "The Casebook of Dr. Coffee," "Rather Cool for Mayhem" and "Clues for Dr. Coffee," among others.

He turned out some 30 mystery or detective novels, some of which were filmed, several hundred short stories, novelettes and articles, and many radio and television shows. He also translated from the French a dozen or so books and contributed to magazines.

With Michael V. DiSalle, he wrote "The Power of Life or Death," in which the former Ohio governor discussed the death penalty. Mr. Blochman also wrote "Doctor Squibb: The Life and Times of a Rugged Idealist," an account of the life of Dr. Edward R. Squibb, founder of E.R. Squibb & Son.

Mr. Blochman received a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1921 and worked for The San Francisco Bulletin, The San Diego Evening Tribune and The San Diego Sun. He also worked for The Japan Advertiser in Tokyo, The Far Eastern Review in Shanghai, The South China Morning Post in Hong Kong, The Englishman in Calcutta, The Chicago Tribune in Paris and The Paris Times, and the Office of War Information in Europe.

His widow, the former Marguerite Maillard, survives.

Louis P. Lochner, Pulitzer Prize-winning correspondent for The Associated Press, OPC president in 1950 and 1955 and trustee emeritus of the Correspondents Fund of America, died in Wiesbaden, West

Germany on January 8. He was 87 years old.

Lochner was bureau chief for the AP in Berlin between 1924 and 1942, the years when Adolf Hitler rose to power. In his autobiography, "Always the Unexpected," published in 1956, he described those years, in which he won a solid reputation for close adherence to the news agency's rules barring opinion and editorializing. His hateful attitude toward Germany and National Socialism, after his return in 1942 to America, surprised his former colleagues in Berlin.

During the war he was a correspondent in Britain, France and Belgium, returning to Germany after the end of the European phase of the war in May, 1945.

He won a Pulitzer Prize for "general correspondence" in 1939. Mr. Lochner left the news agency in 1946. He joined the State Department in 1952 and moved to the United Nations in 1958. He was a radio commentator from 1960 to 1963.

It was not generally known to his colleagues that Mr. Lochner had started as a musician and was a graduate of the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music.

Mr. Lochner, who returned to Germany to live in 1971, is survived by his second wife and one of his three children.

LINOWITZ. . .

(Continued from page 1)

Linowitz, former Ambassador to the Organization of American States and presently senior partner of the international Washington, D.C., law firm of Coudert Brothers, promises to set forth some startling new policy recommendations with respect to U.S.-Latin American relations. The well-known lawyer, businessman and diplomat, who was formerly chairman of the board of Xerox Corp., has spoken before at OPC events and is popular with members and the New York press.

This is the first occasion that the OPC has co-sponsored an event with the Foreign Press Association, an organization of overseas journalists assigned to the U.S.

RESERVATIONS: Please call Mary Novick, 687-2430. Reservation cancellations must reach the OPC 24 hours before the event, otherwise members will be charged the announced fee.

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OPC OFFICE: 687-2430.

Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

BAR: 687-7000, ext. 485.

Open from 12 noon to 10 p.m.

DINING ROOM: 687-7000, ext. 486

Lunch from 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Sandwiches from 5 to 8 p.m.



THE BULLETIN

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Bulletin Committee

Harry Rand, Chairman; Helen Alpert, Ruth C. Biemiller, Charles H. Brown, Lawrence Klingman, Thomas J. Kraner, Grace Naismith, David Resnick, Susan F. Roberts, Ralph Salazar, J. Wendell Sether.

The Bulletin is financially aided by the generous advertising support of Burson-Marsteller and Bache & Company.

WhoWhatWhere

By GRACE NAISMITH

PUBLISHING EVENTS: Ben Wright is the author of an article in the January issue of Field and Stream dated Windhoek, Southwest Africa. Title: "The Great Greater Kudu." Wright has also illustrated the article with his color photographs... **Arnold C. Brackman**, winner of an OPC prize in 1970 for "The Communist Collapse in Indonesia" has a new book out — "The Dream of Troy." published by Mason & Charter. It was a History Book Club selection for November '74... The Seabury Press has just published "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" written by OPCer, **Rev. William B. Gray** and his wife, Betty... **Meg Whittle Whitcomb** is still writing her Dear Aunt Meg column for The National Star, now appearing in Australia also... **Helen Alpert**, editor of Retirement Living, is editing a publication for the Association of Tenants of Lincoln Towers called "News," distributed to 4,000 apartments in Lincoln Towers, population, she says, 10,000. It is tabloid recycled paper.

TRAVELERS: Malcolm W. Browne, New York Times Balkan Bureau, has recently established an OPC presence at the South pole retreating to his usual beat covering Eastern Europe. "The trip," he writes, "was part of my coverage for The Times of this year's research and other activities in Antarctica. Despite the commonplace of travel to and around Antarctica, the place still has a unique magic and unimaginable beauty."... **James Sheldon** will be the conductor of the United

DINNER HOUR DROPPED

The cocktail and dinner hour environment will change on February 1. Crocks of cheese will be available, as well as peanuts and pretzels, Sandwiches and coffee will be on tap, for the hungry. Full dinner service has not been a popular or successful operation of the Club and will be discontinued at that time.

Members who wish more than sandwiches and coffee may use their Realty Hotels credit card in all dining areas of the Biltmore.

The habit of dropping by the Club in the evening will be reinforced, it is hoped, by a series of informal Tuesday and Thursday programs planned by the Open House and Hospitality Committees.

Members amenable to sociable luncheons will find the traditional Members' Table restored to the Club dining room, and this will afford OPCers the opportunity to join colleagues for informal luncheon colloquy.

Nations Assoc. of the New York, N.Y. tour of Israel which leaves March 1. **Dorothy Omansky** is chairman of the trip, which will be a ten-day study tour to explore in depth Biblical and Modern Israel.

SEEN ON THE SCENE: Adriana Malponte, leading soprano of the Metropolitan Opera Co., guest of **Stella Margold**... **Barney Oldfield**, "living legend."

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BEHIND THE SCENE: **Ralph Salazar**, retired UPI reporter and editor for the Latin American department, now editor for the quarterly newspaper for Pinkerton, Inc., spends many hours a month working on the OPC Bulletin makeup and headlines in **Harry Rand's** office, Rockefeller Family & Associates.

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Don't hesitate to contact them — or contact me — Henry Gellermann, First Vice President — in New York City at (212) 791-3826.

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